

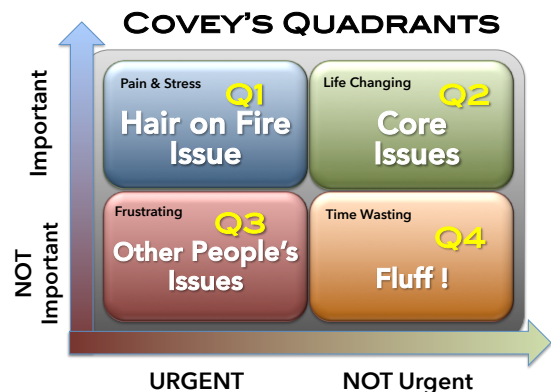
PARKING LOT LEADER

ROLE

1. Lead & manage the forum's ongoing Parking Lot. Confidentially maintain ongoing paper or online system (Online options: Google Docs, Trello, Slack, Basecamp, Asana...)
2. Listen deeply for content and supporting members to explore important issues in their lives and businesses,
 - Listen intently during updates, making note of potential Exploration subjects or Topics for this or future meetings,
 - Lead a crisp group discussion once a meeting (~5 minutes, after all Updates) adding each forum mate's perceived opportunities and challenges to the Parking Lot.
 - Invite and encourage forum mates to add an item(s) to the parking lot, helping them explore below the surface for underlying core challenges. Of course, each member has final say regarding what issues/opportunities they will explore and when they are ready.
 - ALWAYS be listening (throughout full meeting) for potential exploration subjects/topics raised or implied (during experience sharing or breaks or other conversations)
 - Between meetings, be available to support members to add or remove items from their parking lot as life unfolds (often phone or email).

SUGGESTED STRUCTURE

- Keep ongoing record of exploration subjects & topics by area (ie. Business/Family/ Personal/Other), presenter & date, updated each meeting.
- Create & maintain a forward plan of potential explorations & topics - (speakers etc.) by area & quadrant, noticing themes / repetition for each member and across the forum.
- Book / communicate with outside speakers (tours, resources) &/or support forum mates who do. Be clear with timing and topic. **Best practice:** 15 - 30 minutes of presentation, followed by short Q&A with the speaker present, and forum only discussion after the speaker leaves the meeting.
- When an annual theme or vision is set, parking lot explorations & topics can bend toward subjects and activities that support the theme or vision.
- **Best practice:** 1 hour Q2 Exploration each meeting (with coaching if useful) and a second hour with a few Q1 subjects, and /or brainstorm, topical or expert discussions.



OUR PARKING LOT:

EXPLORATIONS

VS.

TOPICS

EXPLORATION Subjects are...

WHY Questions

Why is this decision so hard?
Why is this relationship so challenging?
Why am I stuck here?

The subject is:

- Significant
- Unresolved
- Emotionally complex

We explore with SELF CURIOSITY, exploring the emotions in the deepest currents of the river. We are not trying to 'solve' for or fix the presenter; rather to share the memories that are triggered in us. We sharing in two or three sentences, the emotion we are flowing with and the story that has flashed through our minds.

I am looking for **CLARITY**
&
SELF AWARENESS

Idea generation TOPICS are...

WHAT or HOW Questions

What am I missing?
How could I handle this differently?
What other options could work here?

- **Brainstorming:** group generates many interesting/divergent/interesting ideas in 10-15 min of time
- **Topical Discussion:** prepare and share ideas and resources 30-40 min
- **External Expert:** invite a credible expert to come present on specific topic for 15-30 min with Q&A following
- **Internal Expert:** sometimes the expertise is inside the forum - same format
- **Written Expert:** books, articles, blogs - all can read and discuss or one member can present their summation
- **Goals or Accountabilities:** off line or during the meeting, members can update each other on their efforts to achieve goals or accountabilities in their lives.

I am looking for
MORE IDEAS or
perspectives I may be **BLIND** to.

IS MORE DATA HELPFUL?

NO

YES